

suffering. The profession is one of the most altruistic of vocations and appeals to those whose desire is to give themselves to the welfare of mankind.

The Christian physician has open before him an immense field of usefulness. His ministry is of a kind with that of the Master, who devoted himself to relieving physical infirmity and suffering, thereby relieving distress of mind and bringing light and hope to the soul. The Christian physician is a need of every community and there is increasing demand for him in foreign lands. As mission enterprises are extended the Christian physician will be the companion and in many cases the forerunner of the ordained minister.

LAYMEN'S MOVEMENT.

The three days' campaign of the Laymen's Missionary Movement in Richmond, Va., November 24-26, under the leadership of General Secretary J. Campbell White, is regarded as eminently successful. The cordial co-operation of all the Protestant churches of the city was enlisted from the beginning and the interest steadily increased to the close. Addresses were delivered by experienced and gifted men representing distant as well as local communities. Mission secretaries, and missionaries from India, China, Japan and Korea were present to give their testimony to the value and importance of the greatest movement of modern times.

Speakers representing our own branch of the Church were Rev. H. C. Ostrom, Athens, Ga.; Rev. D. Clay Lilly, Winston-Salem, N. C.; Mr. Cameron Johnson, Richmond, Va.; Mr. C. A. Roland, Athens, Ga.; Rev. H. F. Williams, Nashville, Tenn.; Rev. C. H. Pratt, Rome, Ga.

The delegates present numbered 925. From the sixty-four Richmond churches there were 664. In addition to the delegates there were many visitors and large audiences assembled at each meeting.

The churches of the city were asked to undertake to raise \$60,000. After the denominational meetings, at which definite amounts were named as the goal which would be aimed at, it was found that the several denominations would attempt to raise for the coming year a total of \$69,100. This amount is assumed by the denominations as follows:

Presbyterians	\$12,500.
Baptists	25,000.
Methodists	15,000.
Episcopalians	14,000.
Disciples	2,600.

Total\$69,100.

Rev. J. Campbell White goes from Richmond to Worcester, Mass., after which conventions will be held in Providence, Boston, Washington, Baltimore, Philadelphia and other towns in Pennsylvania before the holidays. The work of the new year will begin in New York City and will be continued until May, when a national missionary congress will be held in Chicago. Meanwhile conventions will be held in about seventy-five cities and chosen men will organize the movement in smaller cities and towns.

DEATH OF DR. JERE WITHERSPOON.

The death of Rev. Dr. Jere Witherspoon, at Clifton Springs, N. Y., on Thursday, October 28, will send a pang through many hearts. Few men are so universally cherished and beloved, and few will be so greatly missed. His early life was in Mississippi, where he finished his college course in 1872. His pastorates were at Okalona, Miss., at Maysville, Ky., at Jackson, at Nashville, Tenn., and Baltimore, Md., and lastly at the Grace Street Church at Richmond, Va. Although his connection was with our Southern Assembly, he was elected a Director in Princeton Theological Seminary. One great feature of his work was the gentleness, the tenderness and the spirituality of his labors.

THE ORPHANAGE FIRE.

The destruction by fire of the Shelton Memorial Cottage of the Presbyterian Orphans' Home at Lynchburg, Va., was an event of tragic and pathetic interest. The lives of five of the smaller children of the Home were lost. The fire originated in the basement very early in the morning while the inmates were asleep, and had made considerable headway before it was discovered. It was the girls' cottage occupied by women and children only, and the fight against the flames was waged by them until help arrived from a distance. The children whose lives were lost were caught in a room which was cut off by the flames and rescue was impossible. All was done that could be done to save them and it was only by heroic management and work that a larger number of lives were not lost. One little girl, Ruby Moorefield, who had reached a place of safety, on finding that her little sister was still in the building, hurried back to rescue her and both perished. It would be hard to imagine a more sublime, at the same time pathetic, act of heroism. Mrs. Priest, the orphanage cook, promptly took a position on the roof of the verandah and helped twenty of the children to a place of safety. After the last one had been rescued, she jumped to save her own life, and sustained serious injuries. There is another name worthy of record here, Tom Bowles, a one-legged boy sixteen years of age, caught two of the children as they jumped from the roof, probably saving them from painful injury or death.

Let us learn what we can from so distressing an event. Real fortitude and courage are latent in many hearts only waiting the occasion for their expression. A love for others that often finds only incidental ways of expressing itself may be so true and self-sacrificing as to freely yield up life itself when occasion calls. There is an inherent heroism in Christian character of which the world takes little account.

Further, we must not forget that God is all faithful in his love at such a time as this, as amidst the most congenial and propitious circumstances of life. Such times serve to develop power that is needed for continued service and faith for larger achievement. "Beloved think it not strange concerning the fiery trial which is to try you, as though some strange thing happened unto you; but rejoice, inasmuch as ye are partakers of Christ's sufferings, that when his glory shall be revealed ye may be glad also with exceeding joy."